



## European Association of Fish Pathologists

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# Sixth International Symposium on **AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH**

**GLOBAL STRATEGIES FOR A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT**

**September 5 - 9, 2010 Tampa, Florida USA**



## **PROCEEDINGS**

## European Association of Fish Pathologists (EAFP)

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The "European Association of Fish Pathologists (EAFP)" was established on October 25<sup>th</sup> 1979 in Munich, Germany. It represents an interdisciplinary society, embracing all aspects of aquatic disease in fish, shellfish and crustaceans, in aquaculture and in wild stocks. Additionally, amphibians and reptiles are included. Members come from all disciplines, biologists, microbiologists, veterinarians, fish farmers and aquaculture engineers. The objective of the EAFP is to promote the rapid exchange of experience and information on aquatic disease problems and related topics. These aims are pursued mainly through regular regional and international meetings, support for training courses in laboratory techniques and the publication of the Bulletin of the EAFP, a fully citeable journal listed in ASFA, Current Contents and Science Citation Index. The EAFP web site, [www.eafp.org](http://www.eafp.org) provides online access to archive EAFP Bulletins, information on the EAFP conference and other events, workshop reports and a members message board is also available. At the conferences, histological workshops are organised, and the outcome of these workshops are later published on CDs.

Although the EAFP is based in Europe, it welcomes members worldwide and maintains close international contact through a network of Regional Officials called Branch officers. The EAFP has a membership of around 900 from 50 countries. Membership subscriptions include the EAFP Bulletin published six times a year plus access to a regularly updated Members list via the EAFP website.

According to the statutes, the EAFP is served by a President and a five member Council. The EAFP is organised into national branches. These activities are co-ordinated by the EAFP Branch officers who help to organise local meetings and report on local activities through the Bulletin.

The recent situation regarding mainly virus-induced epidemics in aquatic animals (fish, shellfish, crustaceans) in Europe is characterized by the combat against diseases notifiable by EU but also OIE organised by each EU memberstate. Main topics are recently the combat against "viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS)" caused by a rhabdovirus (genotypes I – III) which infects mainly salmonid fish, both aquacultured and wild. While the Scandinavian countries and the UK are free of VHS, the rainbow trout-keeping EU member states in continental Europe are infected. Besides the notifiable diseases such as VHS, IHN and ISA, infections with SAV and IPN are also in focus.

Due to the EU enlargement eastwards, the production of cyprinids is now greater than salmonid production. Therefore, cyprinid diseases like "koi herpesvirus disease (KHVD)", which infects aquacultured, wild and ornamental fish, became a focus of attention. Besides this disease, a non-notifiable disease ("spring viraemia of carp, SVC") never disappeared from Europe.

In oyster and mussel aquaculture, the main notifiable diseases are parasitic (marteiliosis, bonamiosis). In 2009 an EU regulation was established due to a new high virulent variant of the "Oyster herpesvirus (OsHV-1)" called "OsHV-1  $\mu$ var" which induced severe outbreaks with enormous losses in France, Ireland and the UK.

In European farmed and wild crustacean populations, the baculovirus causing "White spot disease (WSD)" is the only non-exotic notifiable disease. However, the fungal "crayfish plague" is also under investigation.